

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 13, line 34, with the following amended paragraph:

It is also well known that an indicator for the cohesiveness of an adhesive material is the ratio $G''_{37} (100 \text{ rad/s}) / G'_{37} (1 \text{ rad/s}) = \tan (\oplus) (\delta)$. Accordingly, the thermoplastic hydrophilic homogeneous polymeric matrix comprised in the adhesive compositions of the present invention preferably has a $\tan (\oplus) (\delta)$ at 1 rad/s and 37°C not greater than 2, preferably not greater than 1.5, and more preferably not greater than 1.3.